JOHN BUCK

of

Cape May County, New Jersey

(d. 1716)

and some of his descendants

Compiled by

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FOREWORD

For a number of years I've been collecting material on Isaac and John Buck of Scituate, Plymouth Colony, and their descendants. The former, Isaac Buck, is my own immigrant ancestor. Early on I happened across some Cape May County Bucks in The Mayflower Descendant and suspected they might be related but could not at that time establish a link. Somewhat later, browsing through volumes of the New Jersey Archives, I came across John Buck, progenitor of the Cape May County Bucks, and had a gut feeling that he might just be the son of John[1] Buck of Scituate, whose birth and baptism are found in the Scituate vital records, so I delved further.

After considerable digging in the published records I concluded that this John Buck of Cape May County was indeed the son of John[1] Buck of Scituate. Unfortunately for my case, however, the evidence is all circumstantial--not a single documentary item of the sort that would provide a water-tight argument.

But by that time I had exhausted the published records and in the process collected so much information about the early Cape May Bucks that I felt obliged to assemble it in a form that would be useful to others rather than relegating it to perpetual oblivion in my files. What I herewith present, then, is an attempted reconstruction from published records of John Buck of Cape May County and some of his progeny--a sort of genealogical skeleton, with surmisal too often having to substitute for fact. Possibly there are somewhere descendants of John's with the generational recall or perhaps even private written record that would considerably flesh out this compilation, but I have not sought them out.

Another possible source of information I have not exhausted and which, given the time to check, might be productive is allied genealogies. Published genealogical material on some of the families into which the Cape May Bucks married might provide items of information that would help to clarify the picture. I have taken the time to check only a few such genealogies.

Beside John's descendants and allied genealogies, there are two other sources of information I have not been able to make use of by reason of time and geogrpahy--deeds and related records in the Cape May County deed registry and special collections of unpublished material in the Cape May County

Historical Society's Library. (All the published material I consulted is to be found in the New York Public Library or the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, to both of which I have easy access.)

I have seen the deed index on microfilm, and as there are only a few deeds prior to 1800, this source would probably provide little enlightenment about John himself and his children. The other source, unpublished material in the County Historical Society's collection, might provide useful data and should be explored by anyone wishing to carry this investigation further.

There was one other self-imposed restriction under which I labored. I limited the Buck references I collected to Bucks found in Cape May County. Doubtless some of John's progeny found their way into adjoining counties or even farther away, and, given infinite time for searching records, one might track some of them down. I had neither that kind of time nor that measure of curiosity. Corollary to this I operated on the assumption that any Buck I found in Cape May County, at least into the 1800's, was a descendant of John Buck. (There were two exceptions that I was able to identify as intruders from an unrelated line of Bucks in adjoining Salem County.) In operating under this assumption I may have roped in an unrelated itinerant Buck or two.

In my section on the progenitor John Buck himself I have spelled out my reasons for believing that he is the son of John^{1} Buck of Scituate and have accordingly assigned him to Generation II, designating him John^{2} Buck. I have not bothered to carry this record beyond the mid-1800's--nor have I taken the time to add the most important part of any genealogy, an index. Even so, I believe that what I present in the following pages will have value for others delving in South Jersey genealogy. And I should be interested in hearing from anyone with additional information, particularly information bearing on John^{2} Buck himself and his children.

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Sources Cited

NJA	New Jersey Historical Society, New Jersey Archives, Series 1. 42 vols (1880-1949)
GMNJ	Genealogical Magazine of New Jersey
CMHG	Cape May County Magazine of History and Genealogy
Stillwell	John E. Stillwell, Historical and Genealogical Miscellany. 5 vols. 1932.
Howe	Rev. Paul Sturtevant Howe, Mayflower Pilgrim Descendants in Cape May County. 1921.
Norton	James S. Norton, New Jersey in 1793.
CMCM	H. Stanley Craig and Julius Way, comp. Cape May County Marriage Records.
Dayton gen.	Donald Lines Jacobus and Arthur Bliss Dayton, The Early Daytons and Descendants of Henry Jr. New Haven. 1959.
NJW	State of New Jersey, Index of Wills, Inventories, etc. in the Office of the Secretary of State prior to 1901. 3 vols. vol. 1.
BKB	Benjamin K. Buck, of Millville, Cumberland Co., a descendant of John Buck.

The above are the sources from which nearly all the specific data in this compilation were collected. In addition, I have pored through numerous other volumes and microfilms for background and contextual information.

1 JOHN[2] BUCK (----[1]), d. Cape May County, N.J., 4 Nov 1716; m. (1) ca. 1705 Abigail Swain--4 ch. (2) 1715 Anne Dayton--no ch.

The record provides scant information about this John Buck. We first pick him up in 1706, when he registered his earmark. He died ten years later, of smallpox. From his will we know the names of his children and his wife Anne. A deed dated ten months before his death tells us that Anne was the daughter of Jacob Dayton. However, some simple calculation shows us that she could not, by reason of age, have been the mother of John's four children.

Jacob Dayton, to back-track for a moment, and his wife Ruth (Diament) had settled at Cape May with their six daughters before 1700, coming there from East Hampton on Long Island, where they were married in 1680 according to the Dayton genealogy. (They could hardly have married much earlier as Jacob was only 23 in 1680.) Anne, as the youngest of their six children (she was last named in her father's will), could hardly have been born before 1692; indeed, 1693-95 is more likely.

But John Buck's youngest child, his daughter Mary, married in June of 1730. Assuming she was 18-20 at the time of her marriage (younger is possible, older more likely) she must have been born ca. 1711-12. Moving back from there at the usual two-year interval for each of her three brothers we arrive at 1705 as about the latest year John could have married. And in 1705 Anne Dayton couldn't have been more

more than thirteen--more likely ten or eleven.

Moreover, the records also show an Abigail Buck, who was one of the 37 constituent members of the Baptist Church in January of 1712 and who died January 21, 1715. This Abigail Buck, I have concluded, was John's first wife, the mother of his four children, and the daughter of Richard[2] Swain (Richard[1]) of Nantucket, where Abigail was born February 7, 1683. Of her three younger brothers, Jonathan was also born at Nantucket; Ebenezer and Lemuel were born at Cape May.

The identity of this Abigail Buck rests on two items of evidence:

1. Two of John's grandsons, Enos[4] (John[3], John[2]) and Joseph[4] (Thomas[3], John[2]), each named a son Swain. Enos's wife, we know, was not a Swain; his mother (we don't know who she was) might have been. However, as neither Joseph's wife nor his mother was a Swain, we must conclude that the grandmother of the two cousins was. In light of this it cannot be counted a coincidence that John's sons John Jr. and Thomas each named a daughter Abigail.

2. In the probating of John's estate in 1716 Jonathan Swain was named one of the two overseers. Overseers shared executorial responsibility and were usually selected because of some affinity with the deceased or his heirs. Jonathan Swain was named an overseer, in all likelihood, because he was an uncle of the deceased's children. Further, one of the two bondsmen (bondsmen stood to lose money if the will

were not properly executed) was Ebenezer Swain, Jonathan and Abigail's brother and uncle of John Buck's children.

The evidence of names, detailed above, leaves no doubt that the first three children were Abigail's. Chronology, as earlier noted, indicates that the fourth child Mary was also Abigail's. Indeed, if she were Anne's daughter, she would have been barely fourteen, perhaps only thirteen, at the time of her marriage in 1730. Moreover, following her father's death she was placed for a year in the home of Jeremiah Hand, a step difficult to understand if Anne were her mother. Clearly then, Abigail was the mother of all four of John's children.

* * *

Skimpy as the record is, it still provides directly or inferentially a few additional bits of information about John. To register his earmark in 1706 he had to own livestock, which suggests that he was already well settled in with property of his own and certainly married. Economically he apparently held his own in the community, as we find him listed among the creditors paid by the executor of Abraham Hand's estate in early 1715, and at the time of his death he owned one-third interest in a sloop (the Dolphin)*, which suggests that John was in the coastal trade, a flourishing business even into the Twentieth Century.

There is also evidence to suggest that John was--at least originally--a Quaker. Quakers, the historians tell us, were numerous and prominent among the early Cape May settlers.

*Probably the Dolphin that was built at Cape May County in 1708. (CMHG 1:289)

John's first wife, Abigail Swain, came from a Quaker family; and although she was a founding member of the Baptist Church in 1712, three years later, in 1715, we find John listed among the witnesses to a Quaker marriage (though not all witnesses to a Quaker wedding had to be Quakers); and the girl whom John's son Thomas married was, I believe, a niece of the groom. I find no indication that the Daytons were Quakers, but Anne's stepfather Richard Downes appears in this same list of witnesses. John's daughter Mary also married into a family some of whose members at least were Quakers. The Crowells too (John's widow Anne was among the creditors of Yelverton Crowell's estate in 1726) were apparently Quakers, as evidenced by the fact that the wedding of Yelverton's brother Joseph in 1710 was a Quaker wedding (though the link with Yelverton's family could have been kinship rather than religion; Yelverton's first wife had been Anne's older sister Ruth).

However, when John died, the Baptist minister, Nathaniel Jenkins was apparently at his bedside, as he drew up John's will (though John died before he could sign it). This suggests that John may have become a Baptist by that time. His first wife, as noted above, had joined the Baptists four years earlier, and many of John's descendants continued in the Baptist fold. Yet we find no mention of John in the Baptist records (which are admittedly slim for that period), but it's also a fact that Nathaniel Jenkins witnessed many wills and assisted in the inventories of many estates, in-

cluding John's, as did Christopher Church, the other overseer besides Jonathan Swain. One finds these names together in a number of probate records, indicating that the court must have made frequent calls on their services.

We don't know who raised John's children following his death--possibly their stepmother but more likely, I think, one or both of their uncles Jonathan and Ebenezer Swain. Mary, as noted above, was placed with Jeremiah Hand and his wife for a year, but thereafter must have rejoined her brothers. John's widow Annie, as she was designated in his will, survived him by a number of years; she is mentioned again in the record in 1726, ten years after his death. Thereafter we find no further mention of her.

* * *

There is no record of John's birth or parentage. That he came from New England (or possibly Long Island) can hardly be challenged. With few exceptions all the Cape May settlers did, and the exceptions seem generally to be documented. In the absence of firm records it has been assumed by some of his descendants that he was a brother of the Henry Buck who settled at Cohanzey in adjoining Salem County about 1700 or soon after, coming there from East Hampton, Long Island, where he was earlier settled as a blacksmith.

Henry Buck of Cohanzey, as is well documented, was born 1662 in Wethersfield, Connecticut, the oldest child of Henry and Elizabeth (Churchill) Buck. The Wethersfield records,

which were extensive and have been well preserved, show eight children born to Henry and Elizabeth from 1662 to 1678, but no John.

Henry Buck of Cohanzey did, to be sure, have a cousin John[2] Buck (Enoch[1]), born Wethersfield 1652, of whom we have no further record and even some evidence that he died in infancy. In any event he was five years older than Anne Dayton's father; moreover, if John Buck of Cape May were the son of Enoch Buck of Wethersfield, the ancestral name Enoch would certainly have shown up in subsequent generations of his descendants as it did in other lines of descent from Enoch.

It can therefore be categorically stated that John Buck of Cape May was not one of the Wethersfield Bucks. However, the notion that John of Cape May and Henry of Cohanzey were brothers must have found strong support in the remarkable coincidence that both of them married Daytons. Henry's wife, we learn from his will, was named Rachel; her maiden name is unrecorded, but the fact that they had a son they named Dayton leaves no doubt that she was Rachel Dayton, imputed daughter of Ralph Dayton, who was a brother of Jacob Dayton, father of John Buck's wife Anne, and who had settled in Salem County about the same time Jacob settled at Cape May. Technichally then, John and Henry could be called cousins by marriage, but if any blood relationship existed it went back to earlier generations in England.

Where, then, did John come from? Long Island, I feel certain, can also be eliminated as his place of origin. Collectively over the years I have had occassion to examine most of the published Long Island records for the Seventeenth Century and find no Bucks there prior to 1697, when the above-mentioned Henry Buck of Wethersfield was admitted to East Hampton as a blacksmith.

This leaves New England, where, besides the Wethersfield Bucks, there were only two other immigrant Buck families prior to 1700 who left progeny. The first was William Buck, who with his son Roger settled at Cambridge in 1635. Roger's son John, born 1644, apart from being too old to be John of Cape May, apparently died young. A grandson John, born 1680, never left Massachusetts. Nor do we find among John of Cape May's children and grandchildren any of the names of Roger's sons as we do in other lines of descent from Roger--Ephraim, Samuel, Ebenezer.

The only other immigrant Buck family in New England to leave name progeny were the brothers Isaac and John Buck, who settled at Scitutate, Plymouth Colony, in the late 1630's or 1640's. Each had a son named John, but Isaac's son John died in 1680. John's son, John Jr., however, cannot be eliminated. In fact, several lines of evidence, though individually explainable as coincidence, collectively provide

strong support to the idea that John of Cape May was the son of John[1] Buck of Scituate.

1. Chronology and geography. John Buck Jr. of Scituate was born in late 1659. Following his baptism in 1663 at the age of four, we find no further direct reference to him in any of the records; however, as late as 1682 his father was still being identified in official records as "Sr.", indicating there must still be a "Jr." around somewhere. (In earlier documents the designation "Sr." had apparently been used to distinguish him from his nephew John, who was considerably older than his own son John, and who in at least one record is designated "Jr.", obviously to distinguish him from his uncle. However, this nephew John had died in the first two months of 1680.)

The next mention I find of John[1] isn't till eight years later when he appears in the town meeting records without the "Sr." This suggests that by then his son had either died or moved out of the area. This latter is more than a remote possibility because in 1686 a John Buck is recorded as a resident of what is now Toms River, Ocean County, N.J., when he is named in a suit with James Johnson, one of the Scottish proprietors of East Jersey. As we do not encounter the name Buck in that part of New Jersey for over another half century (and then it's one of the Wethersfield lines), this John Buck must have either died without leaving name descendants or moved elsewhere.

Just when John Buck of Cape May first arrived there is

not recorded, but inasmuch as he was sufficiently established by 1706 to register an earmark he could have come before 1700 (and possibly from Toms River).

2. The Quaker connection. I have set forth above the evidence that John Buck of Cape May was, at least when he first settled there, a Quaker. In light of that, it is significant to note that several of the second-generation Bucks of Scituate married into Quaker families--John's cousin Elizabeth^{2} (Isaac^{1}), his sister Deborah^{2} (John^{1}), and, perhaps most influential on the young John, his elder brother Joseph^{2} (John^{1}).

From about 1680 till his death in 1696 Joseph resided at Sandwich, where the first Quaker meeting in the New World had been established. Both of Joseph's wives were daughters of Quaker families and his daughter Anne later married into a Quaker family. We can only assume that Joseph himself must have joined the Society. Through association with his brother Joseph John may have been drawn into the Society too. (This Sandwich meeting is of some historic importance for Cape Ma as many of the early settlers there came from the Sandwich-Yarmouth area and must have been members of the Sandwich meeting.)

3. Names. In light of the foregoing, it is of interest that John Buck of Cape May named his first son Joseph. Was it a memorial to his brother who had died a decade earlier? In fact, the full list of his children's names--Joseph, John,

Thomas, Mary--is of some significance. These are all "plain" names--the common everyday names that occur again and again from family to family. While I don't want to seem to be making too much of this notion, it was exclusively such plain names that the Bucks of Scituate seemed to prefer (Isaac had a Joseph, a John, and a Thomas; John had a Joseph, a John, and a Mary), in contrast with the Cambridge and Wethersfield Bucks, who also favored such less common names as Ezekiel, Ebenezer, Jacob, Ephraim.

So much for the evidence, then. What are the counter arguments?

1. As John Buck of Scituate was born in 1659 he would have been 23 years older than Abigail Swain and 32 to 35 years older than Anne Dayton. An age difference of 23 years does not challenge plausibility; men who went to sea, especially, often postponed marriage till their later years; but an age difference of 32-35 years is somehow less plausible. If Anne Dayton's husband was John of Scituate and if my calculation of her approximate birth year is correct, then he would have been 56 and she in her early twenties when they married --an age difference not without precedent, but certainly rare. The explanation has to lie in the limited choice of marriage partners in a sparsely populated area, the pure economics of survival (especially for the woman), and such other reasons and considerations as now lie buried in the sands of Cape May. One thing is certain: following Abigail's death John's most pressing need was a mother for his four young children,

particularly as he must have been to sea much of the time.

2. The second counter argument to my thesis is that there is no mention of a John Buck Jr. in the will of John[1] Buck of Scituate when he died in late 1697. If he had made some earlier settlement on his son (a common practice of the period)--perhaps prior to the son's removal to New Jersey--we might expect a recital in the will so stating, but there is none. As a response to this argument it can only be pointed out that the will was a hastily drawn instrument, clearly a death-bed will, containing a few bequests to grandchildren but primarily requesting that all his property be sold and the proceeds be divided among his daughters. No sons were mentioned, but we know that three of his four sons predeceased him, leaving only the son John unaccounted for.

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Putting it all together, then, if my thesis is correct, the scenario unfolded more or less as follows: the young John Buck early chose the sea as his vocation; he was greatly influenced by the Quakers and joined the Society; prior to 1686 he was drawn, along with many other New Englanders, to East Jersey, settling at what is now Toms River. Subsequently he moved on down the coast to Cape May in West Jersey, settling there about 1700 or soon after, where he married Abigail Swain about 1705, who died in 1715 leaving John with four small children; John then married Anne Dayton and, a little more than a year after their marriage, died of smallpox in 1716.

* * *

To the extent that I've been able to explore this whole matter, then, my case must now rest--admittedly unproven but (I hope the reader will agree) not readily challengeable. Perhaps records exist which I have not seen that would resolve the issue. In any event the material that follows comprises the total record I've collected for John Buck of Cape May. To this I've added the data I've collected on John Buck of Scituate and John Buck of Toms River.

A. John Buck Jr. of Scituate, MA

1659 Sep 6--Born at Scituate, son of John Buck; mother's name unrecorded. (Scit. Vital Rec.) John Sr. came from England, settled at Scituate in the 1640's, was cornet of the troopers for Scituate in the colony militia, served in King Philip's War, died 1697. (Deane, Hist. of Scit. 1831. Statement that John's wife was Elizabeth Holbrook is wrong.)

1663 Oct 4--Baptized at Second Church with his 3 sisters and bro. Joseph. (Scit. Vital Rec.) Thereafter I find no further reference to John in the record.

1679 Mar 5--John[1] identified as John Buck "Sr." in a court case. (Colony Records 7:215) "Sr." means there's a "Jr." around somewhere. The John Buck Jr. we find in the Colony Records in 1672 and 1677 was not John's son, but his much older nephew John[2] (Isaac[1]); but the nephew John left Scituate in 1677 and died in Jan or Feb of 1680, apparently far from Scituate. The Mar 5 designation of "Sr." and the three that follow had to be to distinguish father from son.

1680 June--John[1] again identified as "Sr." in a Plymouth Court petition. (Mass. Hist. Coll. 4th Ser. V:38-40)

July 7--Again designated "Sr.", in inquest panel apptd. by the court. (Colony Records 6:45)

1682 Mar 5--Again identified as "Sr." in court case. (Colony Records 7:246) Thereafter I find no further references to him until 1690 when he is mentioned in the town records as John Buck, with no designation of "Sr." (Scit. Town Rec. C-3; p. 32) He may have continued to be designated "Sr." long after 1682.

1697 Sep 4--Date of John[1] Buck's will. (He presumably died very soon after this date.) The will includes bequests to grandchildren and directs that his property be sold and proceeds divided among his daughters. No mention of John Jr. (Plymouth Probate Records)

B. John Buck of Toms River, NJ

1686 A John Buck is recorded as a resident of what is now Toms River, Ocean County, NJ. (Nelson, NJ Coast 3:11) Named in a suit with James Johnson. (Salter, Hist. of Monmouth & Ocean Counties. 1890. Gen. Rec. xi -xv) James Johnson was one of the East Jersey proprietors. I have been unable to pursue this reference any further. The records from which Nelson and/or Salter drew are not published. I'm told by Dr. Stryker-Rodda, the leading authority on N.J. genealogy, that they

are either in the basement of the courthouse in Freehold or in an old factory nearby. Getting to them would probably require more time and effort than the ordinary citizen has. Acc. to Stryker-Rodda, Salter spent much of his time delving through the records at Freehold when he compiled his hist. cited above.

C. John Buck of Cape May, NJ

1705 May (?)--John Dayton, father of John Buck's second wife Anne, died. The record is confused, but inventory of the estate was made by John Taylor and Henry Leonard. On June 7 Richard Downs posted his bond as administrator; bondsmen: Thomas Hand and Richard Corson. Six daughters were named, with "Dayton" after each name (though some of them may have been married by this time). (NJA 23:131). Richard Downs, the administrator, subsequently married Jacob's widow Ruth.

1706 Apr 23--John Buck registered his earmark; attested before Samuel Crowell. (CMHG 1:334) This is the first appearance in the Cape May records of John Buck.

1707 Apr. or May--Richard Swain, father of John Buck's first wife Abigail, died. Oldest son Jonathan apptd. administrator. Bros. Ebenezer, 19, and Lemuel, 16, chose bro. Jonathan as gdn. No mention of Abigail, but records don't include final distribution. (NJA 23:450). By the time of her father's death she and John must have been married already in order to have 4 children by 1715. (For further on rhe Swain family see GMHG 3:351-5.)

1712 Jan 4--Abigail Buck was one of the 37 constituent members of the First Baptist Church of Cape May. (Church Records)

1715 Jan 21--Abigail Buck died. (Stillwell 3:433)

Feb 25--John Buck listed among creditors pd. by executor of est. of Abraham Hand of Cape May. (NJA 23:207)

Apr 6--John listed among witnesses to marriage of Thos. Bancroft and Eliz. Matthews. (Stillwell 1:395) The extensive list of witnesses indicates that this was a Quaker wedding.

July (?)--Sometime before the end of the year John married Anne Dayton. Mourning for Abigail must have taken second place to his pressing need to find a mother for his four small children, so he and Anne were prob. married in the summer of 1715.

1716 Jan 14--John and Anne Buck transferred by quit claim deed a tract of land on Fishing Creek to Richard Downs. The deed tells us that the land had belonged to John's father-in-law Jacob Dayton, deceased. (CMHG 1:230; County Deeds) Richard Downs was Anne Buck's step-father.

1716 June 3--Foregoing deed was recorded. John appeared at court to validate it. (County Deeds)

Nov 4--John Buck died. His will, dated same day, was drawn up by Nathaniel Jenkins (minister of the Baptist Church) but was unwitnessed because John died (of smallpox) before he could sign it. Will identifies John as mariner, names wife Annie and children Joseph, John, Thomas, Mary. Real and personal estate (latter included gold and silver objects). Executors John Taylor with Jonathan Swain and Christopher Church overseers. (NJA 23:69)

Nov 22--Inventory of his personal estate, made by Christopher Church and Nathaniel Jenkins, presented at court: value £26/9/1, of which £22 represented one-third interest in the sloop Dolphin. (Ibid.)

1717 Apr 15--Bond of John Taylor as executor, jeremiah Hand and Ebenezer Swain, fellow bondsmen. (Ibid.)

1724 Nov 6--"John Taylor, administrator of John Buck, deceased, by consent of Jonathan Swain and Christopher Church, trustees, agree with Jeremiah Hand, that he should have £4/10/- proclamation money for to keep Mary Buck, daughter of the said John Buck, one year after her father's death." (Stillwell 1:382; CMHG 1:249) Question: why did Hand wait so many years before stating his claim?

1726 May 20--The list of creditors paid by the executor of the est. of Yelverton Crowell of Cape May Co. includes an "Amey" Buck. (NJA 23:122) I find no other record of this Amey Buck and can only conclude that "Amey" is a mistranscription from the original records of "Annie," John Buck's widow. In passing, two Crowell-Buck connections are of interest: (1) Yelverton's first wife Ruth was an older sister of Anne (Dayton) Buck. (2) A younger sister of John Buck of Scituate married a cousin of Yelverton's in Yarmouth about 1681.

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Cildren of John Buck and Abigail Swain

71 *2 i JOSEPH, b. prob. ca. 1705-6; d. 1734; m. Lydia ----, no ch. md. in will.

72 *3 ii JOHN, b. prob. ca. 1707-8; d. after 1784; m. (1) ca. 1745-50 ----- ----- (Eldredge ?)--numerous ch. (2) 25 June 1766 Elizabeth Wheaton--no ch.

73 *4 iii THOMAS, b. prob. ca. 1709-10; d. Dec 1772; m. Sarah Bancroft--12 ch. (?)

74 *5 iv MARY, b. prob. ca. 1711-12; d. before 1784; m. 20 June 1730 Hope Willets--prob. had ch.

2 JOSEPH[3] (JOHN[2]), b. Cape May ca. 1708; d. 1734; m. Lydia ----.

Joseph, first named of the four children in his father's will, was presumably the oldest and therefore must have been born about 1708 and only in his mid-20's when he died. The invenotory of his estate indicates he was a farmer rather than a mariner. He may have died very soon after his marriage to Lydia -----, of whose parentage I find no record. The total record I've found for Joseph is as follows:

1708 Est. birth yr.

1716 Nov 4--Md. in his father's will. (NJA 23:69)

1734 July 17--Date of Joseph's will. Presumably he d. the same day as the inventory of his estate was taken only 3 days later. Will names wife Lydia sole executrix, mentions bros. Thomas and John Buck, but no ch. Witnesses:Wm. Johnson, Frs. Taylor, Thos. Stonebanks.

July 20--Inventory of his personal estate, valued at £82/8/01, includes cattle, horses, sheep, and swine. Appraisers: Ebenezer Swain, Wm. Johnson.

Aug 9--Will proved. (NJA 30:72)

1738 June 18--Lydia Buck, widow, of Cape May, m. Ananias Osborne, gent., also of Cape May, (NJA 22:59, GMNJ 18:24, CMCM 10) and died prior to 1772 ("Osborne Genealogy" in GMNJ 36:5-6).

12 3 JOHN[3] (JOHN[2]), b. prob. Cape May ca. 1710; d. after 1794; m. (1) ca. 1745-6 ----- ----- (Eldredge ?), had ch. (2) 25 Jan 1766 Elizabeth Wheaton.

Second named in his father's will, he was doubtless the second born; hence we can estimate his birth year about 1710. On the basis of evidence cited below, nine Gen. IV Bucks found in the record, all born after 1745, can be presumed to be his children. This indicates a rather late marriage--1745 or after, when John was in his mid-late thirties. His first wife's name is unrecorded, but if the name Eldad, by which one of his sons is designated in the record (v. infra) is, as has been surmised, a nick-name derived from Eldredge, she could have been an Eldredge.

In any event she d. before 1766, in which year he m. Elizabeth Wheaton. By now John was into his 50's, so she may have been a widow. They apparently had no ch.

The one tantalizing mystery in the record of John is his sudden departure from the county in 1766 to escape the sheriff and his return shortly thereafter to resume life as a respectable citizen of the community. Doubtless there are records that could provide more information about this episode.

We have no record of John's death, no probate records, but from other recorded events we can date his death after 1784, possibly even after 1789.

Here is the total record I've been able to compile for John:

1710 Est. birth yr.

1716 4 Nov--Named in his father's will. (NJA 23:69)
1734 17 Jul--Md. in will of his bro. Joseph. (NJA 30:72)
1745-6 Est. date of first marriage.

1748 John Buck was one of the creditors pd. by execr. of est. of Benjamin Crawford of Cape May County. (NJA 30:124) On the same date, 13 Nov, he is listed among the creditors pd. by the execr. of est. of Capt. Richard Downs of Cape May County. (NJA 30:119)

1751 4 Jul--Witnessed will of Elias Taylor, gent., of Cape May Co. (NJA 32:318)

(Mo. and date not given)--Appears in tax list for Lower Precinct Cape May Co., had 100 a., 8 horses & cattle, 8 sheep; in a spearate list for the same year a John Buck is listed with the "married men that have no bills to give in." (GMNJ 14:33, 34; CMHG 2:75, 76)

1760 His son Frederick b. (CMHG 1:248) Frederick is the only one of his imputed ch. for whom we have a recorded birth year and was prob. the youngest of John's ch.

1761 16 Apr--A "Johannes" Buck and a Nathan Hand were witnesses to a document relating to the est. of Reuben Foster. (NJA 35:51) The Hand and Foster associations certainly indicate that this Johannes is our John, the clerk who made the entry affecting either erudition or whimsy.

1766 25 Jan--John Buck m. Elizabeth Wheaton. (CMCM 3)

June--The following notice appeared in The Pennsylvania Gazette (?): "Run away, on the 24th day of April past, from the sheriff of Cape May County, West New Jersey, one John Buck, about 50 years of age; he was in custody on three indictments, found against him by the grand jury. He is a lusty man, took his wife and child with him and went over Delaware Bay, it is supposed, in a boat, to Lewes-Town. Whoever takes up this said John Buck and brings him to the subscriber shall have £3 reward paid by Sylvanus Townsend, Sheriff." NJA 25:137) This has to be our John as there was no other John Buck living in the county at that time except his son John, who couldn't have been more than 15 or 16 at that time. The age fits; the child was probably Frederick, John's youngest. Whatever the grand jury indictments were for, the furor must have subsided quickly, because two years later John is back on the tax list.

1768 Prob. May-July--John Buck appears in Lower Precinct tax list, had 50 a. worth £2/10, 1 horse or cow, no sheep. (GMNJ 14:61)

1773 Jul--In tax list for Lower Precinct of Cape May Co., had 123 a., 7 cattle & horses. (GMNJ 37:91)

1774--Jul--John Buck Sr. in tax list for Lower Precinct again, had 123 a. val. at £9/15/-, 8 cattle and horses. (GMNJ 37:91; CMHG 1:99) John Buck, single man, presumably his son, appears in same list.

1775 John Buck listed among creditors of Jeremiah Leaming's estate. (CMHG 1:77)

1778 May--John Buck Sr. in Lower Precinct tax list, owned 53 a. val. at £106. (CMHG 1:48) Same p. includes Andrew and John Buck (Jr. presumably), singlemen. Next p. (149) shows John Buck Sr., singleman; also lists Elihu and Eldad Buck, singlemen. As there couldn't have been two John Buck Sr's, the designation "Sr." on p. 149 must be

a mistranscription of "Jr." if not an error in the original entry in the records.

1784 May--John Buck Sr. in tax list for Lower Precinct, had 53 a. of improved land and family of 3. (CMHG 1:157) The family of 3 were himself, probably his wife, and perhaps Frederick. There is no John Buck Jr. listed in the Lower Precinct as there was in the 1773, 1774, and 1778 tax lists, but we do find a John Buck, householder with family of five, in the Middle Precinct tax list (CMHG 1:56) There is also a Stephen Buck, householder with family of 4 in the M.P. tax list.

1789 A John Buck was witness to the will of Jos. Watt of Cape May Co., minister. (NJA 36:248) As John^3 was prob. deceased by this time, the witness was prob. his son John^4.

1794 A deed abstract tells us that John Buck had sons William and Andrew. (CMHG 2:31) This has to be John^3, as John^4 was still unm. in 1778. I have not seen the deed itself. Possibly John3 was still living in 1794, but it's more likely he was deceased and merely md. in the deed.

Ch. of John^3 Buck and ----- ----- (Eldredge ?)

There is no record of John's first marriage or the births of any of his children, though a deed recorded 1794 identifies two of them--William and Andrew. Seven other Gen. IV Bucks culled from the county records, however, can be imputed to him by elimination, to wit: from probate records we know the names of his younger brother Thomas's eleven children and that his elder brother Joseph probably had no children. After eliminating William and Andrew and Thomas's eleven children, we are left with eight Gen. IV Bucks found in the records whose parentage is not recorded. Seven of these were born between 1745 and 1760-5 (the above mentioned William and Andrew were also born during this period), and these seven I impute to John. The eighth, Ira, whose latest appearnce in the record is in 1760, had to have been born much earlier. and I have imputed him to John's brother Thomas.

By the foregoing reasoning, then, I ascribe the following nine children to John, though allowing for the possibility one of them could be an unrelated itinerant or one of Thomas's children going by a different name from that found in his father's will.

1763

176 * 6 i ABIGAIL[4], b. 1745-48; m. 29 Dec Samuel Crowell

177 * 7 ii ENOS, b. 1748-50; d. 1803; m. (1) 3 May 1773 Elizabeth Crawford--1 ch. (2) 3 Jun 1800 Abigail Hewitt --1 ch.

178 * 8 iii JOHN Jr., b. 1748-55; d. 24 Nov 1811; m. and prob. had ch. but none identifiable from the records.

179 9 iv ELDAD (ELDREDGE ?), fl. 1778, but prob. b. before 1757. Eldad Buck is listed as a singleman in the Lower Precinct in May 1778 (CMHG 1:149); this is the sole refernce I find to this Eldad. That this is either a nick-name derived from Eldredge or a mis-transcription of Eldred (a variant of Eldredge found in the records) seems indisputable and strong evidence that his mother, the wife of John[3] Buck, was an Eldredge.

180 *10 v ANDREW, b. 1753-57, d. 1808; m. after 1784 Mary ---- --no ch. identifiable in the records.

181 *11 vi STEPHEN, b. 1758-9; d. 1820; m. 4 Jul 1780 Judith Hewitt--1 ch.

182 *12 vii LOT, b. 1757-62; d. Mar 1794; m. 15 Aug 1787 ----- Edmunds--no ch. identifiable in the records.

183 *13 viii WILLIAM, b. 1757-63; d. Nov 1805; m. 2 Mar 1797 Mary Brown--no ch. identifiable from the records.

184 *14 ix FREDERICK, b. 1760, d. 2 Sep 1828; m. 22 Feb 1798 Tabitha Robinson--6 ch.

73 4 THOMAS[3] (JOHN[2]), b. Cape May before 1716 (prob. ca. 1712); d. Cape May 1772; m. Sarah Bancroft, 12 ch.

Thomas, as the record suggests, lived to about the age of 60. He was apparently a farmer and the references I find to him suggest he was a man of some substance in the community. Here is the record for Thomas.

1712 Est. birth yr.

1716 Nov 4--His father d. Thomas is md. in the will. (NJA 23:69)

1734 Jul 17--Md. in will of his bro. Joseph. (NJA 30:72)

1737 Jun 4--Thomas Buck is one of the creditors pd. by the execr. of est. of John Taylor of Cape May Co. (NJA 23: 454) This John Taylor is prob. father of the John Tay- Thomas's dau. Marcy married in 1759.

1738 Jun 7--Thomas Buck one of the creditors pd. by execr. of est. of John Hand of Cape May Co. (NJA 30:218)

1744 Feb 7--Thomas Buck was a subscriber to the Baptist Soc. (Church records per BKB)

1745 May--Served as grand juror. (Beesley, Early Hist. of Cape May Co. 1857)

1746 Mar 12--Thomas Buck appears in a long list of petitioners to Trenton to establish paper currency. (CMHG 1:240)

1751 Thomas Buck listed in Cape May Co. Lower Precinct ratables, owned 100 a., 12 horses and cattle, 23 sheep. (GMNJ 14:32; CMHG 2:74)

1759 Jul 4--Samuel Bancroft of Cape May Co. md. dau. Sarah Buck in his will. (NJA 23:29) There is no record of Thomas's marriage, but his will names his wife Sarah, so we can assume that she was Sarah Bancroft.

1768 Thomas Buck listed in Cape May Co. Lower Precinct ratables, owned 40a. worh £2/13/4, 6 cattle and horses, 2 sheep. (GMNJ 14:59; CMHG 2:28)

1772 Dec--Thomas d. His will, drawn 23 Nov 1768, probated 17 Dec 1772, identifies him as yeoman, mentions son Thomas, grandson Swain, ch. Marcy Taylor, Abigail Eldredge, Elihu, Mary, Sarah, Seth, Esther, Elizabeth, William; grandch. Armelia and Rhoda; wife Sarah. Executors: wife and son Thomas; witnesses: Nathaniel Foster

Jr., Aaron Eldredge, Elizabeth Mills. Also includes bequests, names abuttors. Inventory presented by Aaron Eldredge and Daniel Crowell, est. valued at £36/8/1. (NJA 34:73)

1773 July--Sarah Buck (Thomas's widow) listed as householder in lower precinct of Cape May Co. (GMNJ 37:121; CMHG 1:99)

1774 July--Ditto.

Ch. of Thomas^3 Buck and Sarah Bancroft

All except the first two were named in Thomas's will 23 Nov 1768 and in the same sequence as here, which is prob. their birth sequence. Grandch. Armelia and Rhoda were also md. in the will, but I haven't discovered which of the following was their parent.

? 15 i IRA^4, m. 14 Jan 1760 Sarah Hand of Cape May (NJA 22:36) His marriage and one earlier refernce dated 22 Feb 1757 in the memorandum book of Jacob Spicer for the years 1757-64 to a "horse I bought of Ira Buck" comprise the total record I find for Ira. Was this Ira Buck the son of Thomas^3? Joseph^3, as the records indicate, left no ch., and the ch. I've imputed to John^3 (see preceeding 2 pp.) were all b. after 1748, whereas Ira, to be engaged in horse trading in 1757, would have to have been b. much earlier--perhaps before 1735. Accordingly I think it most probable that he was the son of Thomas^3 and d. without issue before 1768, the date of Thomas's will.

*16 ii JOSEPH, b. ca. 1735; d. Jun 1768; m. (1) 7 Oct 1759 Elisabeth Eldridge (2) 19 Jun 1766 Lydia Woodruff; 4 ch. md. in will. Joseph d. 5 mos. before his father drew up his will, and is therefore not md. in the will; however the will mentions a grandson Swain, who has to be the son Swain md. in Joseph's will, drawn up in May 1768.

*17 iii THOMAS, b. 1744; d. 1791; m. 9 Jan 1771 Judith Edmunds, had at least 2 ch.

18 iv MARCY, m. 29 Dec 1759 John Taylor of Cape May. (NJA 22;59; CMCM 13)

*19 v ABIGAIL, m. ca. 1755 Samuel Eldredge, 4 ch.

20 vi ELIHU, appears in May 1778 tax list for Lower Precinct as singleman; thereafter I find no further record.

21 vii SARAH, d. before 1769; m. 17 Apr 17-- (illeg.) John Hand, "both of Cape May." (NJA 22:59; CMCM 7)

22 viii MARY, d. 1787 (NJA 36:99—ref. to est. of Mary Hand, widow); m. 28 July 1769 her widowed bro.-in-law John Hand, 1746-1790 (dates from private fam. rec; either her or his death date is wrong); had, perhaps inter al., dau. Abigail, 1775-1825, who m. 1798 Miller Bancroft.

23 ix SETH, no further record.

24 x ESTHER, ditto

25 xi ELIZABETH, ditto.

26 xii WILLIAM, ditto, but see notes on 13 William[4] (John[3]) p. 36.

ADDENDA

15 IRA. The grandch. Armelia md. without surname in 4 Thomas[3]'s will is prob. the Amelia Buck who witnessed the will of Josiah Crowell of Cape May County 15 Sep 1781. (NJA 35:106 —and the only mention I find of this Amelia Buck). If so, she would have to have been the dau. of 15 Ira[4] as she is not md. in the will of his bro. 16 Joseph[4] and Ira is the only one of Thomas's sons to have married early enough to have a ch. of an age to witness a will in 1781. Poss. the grandch. Rhoda was also Ira's dau.

22 The John Hand who m. (1) 21 Sarah and (2) 22 Mary was a Gen. VI descendant of the immigrant John Hand of Lynn, Mass., 1580-1608.

5 MARY[3] (JOHN[2]), b. ca. 1711-12; m. 20 Jun 1730 Hope Willets.

I find slim record of Mary before her marriage and none after. 1711-12 seems a plausible birth yr., making her about 18 at the time of her marriage; however, her mother d. in Jan of 1715; if, as seems possible, her death was in childbirth, Mary would have been 15 and a half when she married--not too likely, but possible. In any event, for a yr. following the death of her father in 1716 she was kept by Jeremiah Hand and his wife, but who raised her after that? Her step-mother was young and apparently didn't remarry, so she could hardly have raised Mary and her brothers. Likely, I think, one or both of her Swain uncles raised them.

Her husband's family, the Willetses, were among the early and principal settlers at Cape May, according to Edward S. Wheeler (Sheyichbi and the Strand. 1876. p. 66). They were Quakers from Long Island and members of the Seaville meeting (CMHG 6:2). Hope Willets, Mary's husband, was b. 18 May 1707, son of Joseph and Deborah (Seaman) Willets; his family moved to Little Egg Harbor in 1714. In Woodward and Hagerman's Hist. of Burlington and Mercer Counties, N.J., 1883, 2 vols., we find reference to an Elizabeth Willets being apptd. one of the overseers of the Monthly Meeting of Women Friends (1:338) and, among the Quaker marriages in 1715 and 1716, a James Willets, son of Richard Willets, and an Abigail Willets (1:339), doubtless close kin to Hope Willets.

The marriage records identify Hope Willets as "of Burlington County," so it's probable they settled there after their marriage. Though I've left a number of stones unturned, those I have turned brought to light no further record of Hope and Mary. It's likely they had ch., but the NJA shows no probate records for Hope. The Hope Willets of Cape May County who d. int. in 1784 and whose wife's name was Tabitha (NJA 35) may have been Mary's husband remarried, or he might have been a son or grandson; but the name Hope, I believe, was an ancestral, so it may have appeared in several Willets lines.

Of Mary I find only the following record:

$17\frac{11}{12}$ Plausible birth yr. considering that whe was the youngest ch. and was m. in 1730.

1716 Nov 4--Her father d.; she is md. in his will. (NJA 33:69) For a yr. thereafter Mary was kept by Jeremiah Hand and his wife. Eight yrs. later he put in a claim to the court for compensation. (Stillwell 1:382; CMHG 1:249) Why he waited so long is unclear to me.

1730 Jun 20--Mary Buck, "spinster" of Cape May, m. Hope Willets of Burlington Co., mariner. (NJA 22:59; GMNJ 15:54; CMCM 14)

6 ABIGAIL[4] (JOHN[3]), b. prob. 1745-8; m. 29 Dec 1763 Samuel Crowell

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1745-8 Est. birth date based on marriage date.

1763 29 Dec--m. Samuel Crowell, "both of Cape May." (NJA 22:59; CMCM 5)

Although my search here has not been exhaustive, I find no further record of Samuel and Abigail. I find no probate records for him in the NJA vols of wills. Possibly they removed elsewhere.

7 ENOS[4] (JOHN[3], JOHN[2]), b. Cape May prob. 1748-50; d. 1803; m. (1) 3 May 1773 Elizabeth Crawford, had ch. (2) 3 Jun 1800 Abigail Hewitt, had at least 1 ch.

Enos was a Cape May pilot and drowned at sea in his 50's. The vessel of which he was half owner in 1773 and 1774 was probably a coaster. I find no record of any Revolutionary War activity, but the war could hardly have left him untouched. Here is the total record I find for Enos.

1748-50 Est. birth yr., based on marriage date and the 1793 entry below.

1762 Sep 2--Witness to will of Ebenezer Johnson of Cape May Co. (NJA 23:220)

1773 May 3--m. Elizabeth Crawford, "both of Cape May." (NJA 22:36)

Jul--Listed as householder and half owner of a vessel in Lower Precinct of Cape May Co. (GMNJ 37:91, 120; CMHG 1:98, 100)

1774 Jul--Ditto.

1778 Listed as a householder in Lower Precinct of Cape May Co. (CMHG 1:147)

1784 Enos is missing from the 1784 tax list. Was he living elsewhere? Did the transcriber overlook him in copying from the original records?

1793 "Eners" Buck was living in Middle Township of Cape May Co. (Norton 361) The Norton volume is the 1793 census of males 18-45 eligible for military service; all men listed would therefore have to have been born after 1747.

1800 "Amos" Buck m. Abigail Hewitt. (CMCM 16) As I find no other record of an Amos Buck I assume Amos is a mistranscription of Enos or an incorrect entry in the original record. As Enos was now 50 or older, Abigail Hewitt was likely a widow.

1803 Drowned at sea. (BKB).

Ch. of Enos[4] Buck and (i) Eliz. Crawford, (ii) Abigail Hewitt

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Enos doubtless had more than the 3 ch. listed below, born over a period of 25 yrs. and of 2 different mothers; some of the ch. of unidentifiable parents I have listed on p. 45 were probably his, but the three below are the only ones I can assign with certainty to him.

*27 i CRAWFORD[5], b. 1775-8; d. 1803; m. 3 Apr 1801 Prudence Izzard.

27A ii THOMAS. I find no record of this Thomas, but he is attested to by family tradition, to wit: A great-grandson of the John Swain Buck below, Benjamin K. Buck of Millville, Cumberland Co., nearing 80, states, "My grandfather told me that his father John Swain Buck had a half-brother Thomas who lived in Goshen, Cape May County, Middle Twp., I believe. There is a road in Goshen known as Buck Road. Thomas had sons Enos, who went to Marcus Hood, and Daniel, who lived in Phila. Daniel had three sons--Samuel, William, and Swain. One of these served in the Civil War."

*28 iii JOHN SWAIN, b. Cape May 1803; d. Millville, Cumberland Co., 1885; m. 26 Feb 1828 Mary Denight--10 ch.

8 JOHN[4] (JOHN[3], JOHN[2]), b. ca. 1748-52; d. 24 Nov. 1811; m. (prob.) ca. 1779.

Below are all the data I've found on this John Buck. He apparently married, may have had ch., but I find no record of them.

1748-52 Probable birth yr. based on his first appearance in the tax records.

1773 Jul--John Buck, Jr., singleman, in Lower Precinct tax lists. No property. (GMNJ 37:91; CMHG 1:47)

1774 Jul--Ditto.

1778 May--John Buck, singleman, in Lower Precinct tax list. (CMHG 1:148)

1779 On basis of next item this seems a plausible marriage date.

1784 We continue to find John Buck Sr. in the tax list for the Lower Precinct, a property owner with family, as in the 1773, 1774, and 1778 tax lists. (CMHG 1:157) However, the John Buck Jr., singleman, of those lists is missing, but in the Middle Precinct tax list we find a John Buck, householder, with a family of 5. (CMHG 1:56) Presumably this is John[4] Buck, now married and removed to the Middle Precinct. (There is also a Stephen Buck, householder, with family of 4 in the M.P list for 1784; this is John's brother.

(In the Lower Precinct list we find, in addition to John[3] Buck, his nephew Thomas and his sons Andrew, Lot, and William; Andrew and William are widely separated in the list, but Andrew and Lot are next to each other.

Jun 9--A John Buck was witness to will of John Taylor of Cape May Co. (NJA 35:387) I feel this was probably John[3] rather than John[4], but it could have been the latter. John Taylor was the husband of Marcy[4] Buck (Thomas[3]).

1789 A John Buck was witness to the will of Jas. Watt of Cape May Co., minister. (NJA 36:248) I think this was prob. John[4] rather than his father, as his father must have been dead by this time.

1793 The military census (males 18-45) shows John Buck living in the Middle Precinct. Accordingly he had to have been born after 1747. Enos is the only other Buck in the M.P.

1808 Apr 1--The Cape May County Poor Book (Lower Twp.) shows an entry: "Two shirts for John Buck, $2.50--clothes etc."

1809 Mar 19--Another entry in the County Poor Book: "This year John Buck was put out at the rate of twenty-three dollars, five cents to Joseph Buck."

Oct. 12--Ibid.: Received of David Hughes, overseer of the poor of Lower Twonship eleven dollars for keeping John Buck, one of the poor of said township. Joseph Buck"

1810 Mar 13--John Buck put out to Alee Handly."

1811 Nov 24--Ibid.: "John Buck, one of the poor of the twp., died."

The John Buck of the above entries has to be John^{4}, as his father, John^{3}, if still living would have been over 100 in 1811. Apparently he had moved from the Middle Twp. to Lower Twp. after the 1793 military census and by 1808 had become a ward of the twp. He was not yet 60. The Joseph Buck to whom he was put out in 1809 must have been a nephew rather than a son, as a son would certainly have made a home for an elderly parent without assistance from the overseer of the poor; moreover he spent only a year with Joseph and was then put out to Alee Handly. (See 56 Joseph, p. 52.)

These County Poor Book entries were provided me by BKB (see p. 3). His copy-out includes a further entry for Mar 12, 1814: "John Buck put out to Hannah Hand." There could hardly have been two John Bucks who were wards of the town. I suspect this last entry should be 1811, or John's death date should be 1814.

10 ANDREW[4] (JOHN[3], JOHN[2]), b. before 1757; d. 1808; m. after 1784 Mary -----.

The data below comprise all I can find on Andrew. He apparently married and may have had ch., but I find no evidence of any.

1753-7 Prob. b. during this period.

1778 May--Andrew Buck listed as singleman in Lower Precinct. As he did not appear in the 1774 list, we assume that he turned 21 during the period 1774-8. (CMHG 1:148) Also in the 1778 list: his father, John Sr.; his bros. Enos, John Jr., and Eldad; his cousins Thomas and Elihu.

1784 May--Andrew Buck, singleman, in Lower Precinct tax list. Lot appears next to him. William Buck is separated from them by many names. (CMHG 1:157)

1793 The military census shows Andrew Buck as well as Frederick, Lot, and William Buck residing in Lower Twp. (Norton 360)

1794 21 Mar--Andrew Buck apptd. fellow bondsman with Nezer Swain esq. in est. of Lot Buck. (NJA 37:57)

1813 2 Jan--An entry in the Cape May County Poor Book (Lower Twp.) reads: "Cash paid to Mary Buck for boarding Martha Church." The Mary Buck here referred to was the widow either of Andrew Buck or of his bro. 13 William."

1830 Census shows a Polly Buck in Lower Twp., head of household of 2 F 60-70, 1 F 30-40. This has to be the widow of either Andrew or his bro. William (see p. 36).

11 STEPHEN[4] (JOHN[3], JOHN[2]), b. ca. 1755-57; d. 1820; m. 4 July 1780 Judith Hewitt.

$175\frac{5}{7}$ Plausible birth yr. based on a 1780 marriage.

1780 Jul 4--m. Judith Hewitt.

1784 May--Stephen Buck, householder, 4 members in family, in Middle Precinct tax list. (CMHG 1:155) Three of the 4 members of the household would be Stephen, his wife Judith, and his son Stephen Jr. The only other Buck in the Middle Lrecinct list is John Buck, householder, with 5 in the household--Stephen's bro.

1790 Mar 3--Witness to will of John Holmes of Middle Precinct, Cape May Co. (NJA 37:182)

1793 The military census shows Stephen Buck residing in Upper Twp. (Norton 363)

1800 Feb 2--Bondsman in est. of Richard Crawford of Cape May Co., intestate. (NJA 38:91)

1804 Feb 9--Took inv. of est. of Elihu Hand of Cape May Co. (NJA 39:196)

1806 Aug 1--Took inv. of est. of Wm. Straw of Cape May Co. (NJA 40:299)

1820 Died. Inventory of his est. is sole surviving probate document: 947E (NJW 3:250)

Children of Stephen[4] Buck and (presumably) Judith Hewitt (List prob. inc.)

*29 i STEPHEN[5], b. prob. ca. 1782-3; m. 12 Jun 1808 **Abigail** Shaw.

*30 ii SAMUEL

12 LOT[4] (JOHN[3], JOHN[2]), b. prob. ca. 1757-60; d. Mar 1794; m. (1) 9 May 1783 Bathsheba Foster (2) 15 Aug 1787 ----- Edmunds.

Lot's first wife d. within a yr. of their marriage. Lot himself d. less than 7 yrs. after his second marriage. I find no record of any ch.

1757-60 Marriage in 1783 suggests birth year in this range.

1783 May 9--Lot Buck, Cape May, m. Bathsheba Foster. (NJA 22:36) Was she sister of the Tabitha Foster his bro. Frederick m.?

1784 May--Lot Buck, singleman, in L.P. tax list; Andrew Buck is next to him; William Buck separated by many names. (CMHG 1:157)

1787 Aug 15--Lot Buck, Cape May, m. ----- Edmunds, Cape May. The bond is signed by Jeremiah Edmunds. (NJA 22:36)

1793 Military census shows Lot, Andrew, Frederick, and William Buck residing in Lower Twp. (Norton 360)

1794 Mar--Lot Buck of Cape May d. intestate. On Mar 21 Nezer Swain esq. was apptd. admr., Andrew Buck fellow-bondsman, both of sd. county. On May 30 Aaron Eldredge and Eleazer Hand presented inventory; est. val. at £102/13/2¾. (NJA 37:57)

13 WILLIAM[4] (JOHN[3], JOHN[2]), b. before 1763; d. Nov 1805; m. 2 Mar 1797 Mary Brown.

There were two Williams in Gen. IV--William[4] (John[3]) and William[4] (Thomas[3])--born, as I estimate, within a few yrs. of each other. Other than the mention of William[4] (Thomas[3]) in his father's will the items below comprise the total record I find for any William Buck of this era, and there is a consistency about these data that gives high probability that they all refer to the same William Buck. Because these data seem to associate this William Buck, at least geographically, with other sons of John[3], I conclude that this William Buck is the son of John[3]. Moreover, a 1794 deed suggests that William[4] (John3) was still living at that date; whereas the mention of William[4] (Thhmas[3]) in his father's will in 1768, being the only reference to him in the record, indicates he may have died young.

1757-63 Prob. b. during this period if he was 21 or older in 1784--as he would have to have been to appear in the tax list for that yr.

1784 May--William Buck in L.P. tax list. Andrew and Lot also, but separated by many names. (CMHG 1:157) Since William was not in the 1778 tax list, he prob. turned 21 between 1778 and 1784.

1793 Military census shows William, Andrew, Frederick, and Lot Buck residing in Lower Twp. (Norton 360)

1797 Mar 2--William Buck m. Mary Brown. (CMCM 17)

1798 Witness to will of Abonijah Reeves of Cape May Co. (NJA 38:294) Date was Feb.2.

1805 Nov 28--Inv. of est. of William Buck, Cape May Co., by Andrew Higgins & Jacob Eldredge, sworn to by Mary Buck, 4 Jan 1806, val. at $133.28½. (NJA 40:50; NJW 3:250)

1808 Sep 24--Mary Buck admitted to Presbyterian Church at Cold Spring with 5 others. (Howe 47)

1813 Jan 2--An entry in the Cape May County Poor Book (Lower Twp.) reads: "Cash paid to Mary Buck for boarding Martha Church." This Mary has to be the widow of either William or his bro. 10 Andrew.

1830 Census shows a Polly Buck in Lower Twp. as head of household of 2 F 60-70, 1 F 30-40. William's widow? If not, his bro. Andrew's. (Polly and Molly were frequently used nick-names for Mary.)

Ch. of William[4] Buck and Mary Brown (List prob. inc.)

30 i WILLIAM[5], bp. 20 Nov 1808--designated in bp. record "William son of William and Mary Buck." (Howe 49) This has to be the same William Buck that appears in a list dated 25 Apr 1848 of voters in Middle Twp. to determine the location of the county seat, age and occupation not given. (CMHG 2:11) I find no other mention of this William Buck in the record; he's not in the 1830, 40, or 50 census.

14 FREDERICK[4] (JOHN[3], JOHN[2]), b. 1760; d. 2 Sep 1828; m. 22 Feb 1798 Tabitha (Foster) Robinson, 6 ch.

Frederick resided at Cold Springs, probably not far from where his grandfather John[2] Buck had settled a century earlier. He married--presumably his first marriage--at the age of 37 or 38, had at least 6 ch., and lived to be 68; his wife succeeded him by 8 yrs., dying also at the age of 68. Here is the record.

1760 Birth yr. (Tombstone, CMHG 1:248)

1793 Military census shows Frederick Buck residing in Lower Twp., as were Andrew, Lot, & William Buck. (Norton 360)

1798 Feb 22--Frederick m. Tabitha (Foster) Robinson (CMCM 11), b. 1768 (Tombstone, Howe 349), widow. Though she is Robinson in the record of her marriage to Frederick, her first husband, whom she m. Jun 17, 1786 (CMCM 11), is transcribed in their marrige record as John Robertson; I find no probate records in the NJA for this John Robertson--or Robinson. Tabitha's father, Jonathan Foster, had been a soldier in the Revolutionary War. (New Eng. Reg. 114:185) Frederick would have been 37 or 38 at the time of his marriage; if it was his second we have no record of his first.

1805 Mar 27--Md. in Edw. Price's account bk. (CMHG 1:248)

1808 Jul 22--Tabitha's father, Jonathan Foster, now deceased; inv. of his est. taken, sworn to by Hannah (his wife) and Jeremiah (prob. son) Foster, administrators; no ch. md. He res. Cumberland County. (NJA 40:130--File 1435 F)

1809 Oct 14--Margaret, Isaac, Frederick, Hannah, Mary, ch. of Frederick Buck bp. at Lower Twp. Pres. Church. (Howe 52, 58)

Oct 15--Tabitha and Frederick Buck admitted to church; Tabitha bp. same day. (Howe 51)

1812 Aug 24--" . . . son-in law Frederick Buck" named execr. in will of Hannah Foster; will leaves est. to grandch., incl. Hannah, Isaac, and Frederick Buck. (What about Margaret and Mary?) Witnesses: Ephraim Kent, Cornelia Foster. Will proved 24 Dec. (NJA 41:138-9)

1815 Sep 13--Md. in a continuation of the Edw. Price account bk. kept by his sons Edw. & John Price. (CMHG 1:254)

1822 Nov 12--Issued a receipt to John Price and Thos. Neal for $1.59. (CMHG 1:248)

1828 Sep 2--Frederick Buck d., ae. 68; bd. at Cold Spring. (Tombstone, Howe 349; CMHG 1:248) Inv. of his est. taken 1827 per NJW 2:250, but 1828 is more likely the correct year, as both Howe and CMHG give that.

1836 May 21--Tabitha Buck d., ae. 68. (Tombstone, Howe 349)

Ch. of Frederick[4] and Tabitha (Foster) Robinson

31 i MARGARET[5], bp. 14 Oct 1809; m. 1 Jan 1818 Thomas Neal. (CMCM 36)

32 ii ISAAC, bp. 14 Oct 1809; md. in grandmother's will 24 Aug 1812; m. 26 Feb 1821 Phebe Bancroft (CMCM 30); d. Prob. 1829 or 30 as his widow m. 24 Apr 1831 Aaron Fox (CMCM 48).

33 iii FREDERICK Jr, bp. 14 Oct 1809; md. in grandmother's will 24 Aug 1812. No further record; perhaps d. young.

34 iv HANNAH, bp. 14 Oct 1809; md. in grandmother's will 24 Aug 1812; m. 7 Apr 1829 Isaac Smith. (CMCM 61) Her middle intiial is W. in the marriage record.

35 v MARY, bp. 14 Oct 1809; m. 13 Nov 1832 Uriah Cresse. (CMCM 45)

36 vi -----, bp. 17 Mar 1811.

P. rev. 11/6/82

16 JOSEPH[4] (THOMAS[3], JOHN[2]), b. Cape May ca. 1735; d. there 1768; m. (1) 7 Oct 1759 Elizabeth Eldridge (2) 19 Jan 1766 Lydia Woodruff; 4 ch. mdn in will.

Joseph apparently d. in his 30's, predeceasing his father. His first wife d. soon after their marriage and he himself d. two and a half yrs. after his second marriage. Here's the record I find for him.

1735 Approx. birth yr. based on marriage date.

1759 7 Oct--Joseph Buck m. Elizabeth Eldridge, both "of Cape May." (NJA 22;36)

1764 7 Nov--Joseph Buck in list of creditors of est. of Ezekiel Eldridge; mentions that "Joseph Buck (1760)" is husband of the late Eliz. Eldridge. (NJA 30:163) Does "(1760)" mean that was the yr. she d.?

1766 19 Jan--Joseph Buck m. Lydia Woodruff. (BKB from Greenwich Presbyterian Church records)

1768 Jun--Joseph d.; his will, drawn 27 May 1768, proved 5 Jul 1768, orders land and effects to be sold, wife Lydia to receive 1/3, rest to 4 ch.--daus. Judith & Theoda, sons Swain & Lemuel. Executors: wife Lydia and Levi Eldridge; witnesses: Daniel Mulford, Elizabeth Reeves, Nathaniel Foster. Inventory (£146/14/4) taken June 30 by James Whelden and Henry Hand. (NJA 33:66)

1773 7 Dec--A Lydia Buck was witness to will of John Chester of Cape May Co. (NJA 34:80) Note: a dau. Lydia is md. in the will itself. Could the Lydia Woodruff Joseph m. have been a widow, Lydia (Chester) Woodruff? Possibly, but I doubt if a named beneficiary in a will could also witness the will--a fine legal point to be checked.

1775 12 Jun--A Lydia Buck m. Azria Hewitt, both of Cape May Co. (NJA 22:59; CMCM 8)

Children of Joseph[4] Buck and (probably) Lydia Woodruff (though his first wife, Elizabeth Eldridge may have been mother of at least the first named)

37 i JUDITH[5]. No further record.

38 ii THEODA, witness 20 Dec 1789 to will of Levi Eldridge of Cape May Co. (NJA 36:74) No further record.

39 iii SWAIN. No further record, unless this is the Swain Buck who m. 17 Nov 1827 Rebeccah Wagner (CMCM 41); if so, he was ca. 60 when he m.; yet the only other Swain Buck I find was John Swain[5] (Enos[4]) and he was already m. at that time.

40 iv LEMUEL. No further record.

17 THOMAS^{4} (THOMAS^{3}, JOHN^{2}), b. 1744; d. 1791; m. 9 Jan 1771 Judith Edmunds, had ch.

The dozen or so references I find to Thomas in the records indicate that, although he d. before the age of 50, he enjoyed a measure of prosperity. He owned one-third interest in a sloop when he was 24 and by the time he was 29 owned more than 100 acres and livestock. Later, when over 40, he kept a tavern. Presumably he lived at Cold Spring where he was bd. and where his cousin Frederick Buck lived. Here is the record.

1744 Birth yr. (Tombstone, Howe 349)

1768 Thomas Buck Jr., singleman, in list of Lower Precinct ratables--no real est. but 1/3 interest in a "sloop or shallop boat." (GMNJ 14:63)

1771 Jan 9--Thomas Buck Jr., Cape May, m. Judith Edmunds, Cape May. (CMCM 3)

1773 Jul--In tax list for Lower Precinct--had 112 acres, 6 cattle & horses, 1/2 vessel. (GMNJ 37:91)

1774 Jul--Again in Lower Precinct tax list, but had only 100 acres, val. at £10/-, 8 cattle & horses, no vessel. (GMNJ 32:91; CMHG 1:100)

1777 Jan 8--Md. as abuttor to lands near Cold Spring in will of Daniel Crowell of Cape May Co. (NJA 34:121)

1778 May--On tax list for Lower Precinct--130 a. val. at £450. (CMHG 1:147) I suspect £450 should be £45/.

1780 Aug 23--Took inventory with Thos. Ewing of est. of Jas. Ramsey of Cape May Co. (NJA 34:414)

Sep 27--Bondsman to John Hand Sr. as gdn. of Daniel Hand Jr., all 3 of Cape May Co. (NJA 34:224) John Hand Sr. was the husband of Thomas's sister Mary.

1782 May 5--Judith Buck md. in will of her father, Downes Edmunds. (NJA 39:149)

1784 May--Thomas Buck in Lower Precinct tax list, had 127 a. improved land, 7 in family. A Thomas Buck also listed as tavern keeper. The two must be the same Thomas, as Thomas3 was long dead and Thomas5 was not yet born. A John Buck Sr. is also in the list, with 53 a. imp. land, family of 3. Also Andrew, Lot, and William Buck, singlemen. (CMHG 1:157, 161)

1787 Feb 22 Apptd. admr. of est. of Geo. Oliver, pilot, of Cape May Co. (NJA 36:172)

Jun 29--Took inventory with Elijah Hughs of est. of Mary Hand of Cape May Co., widow. (NJA 36:99) This Mary Hand was Thomas's sister.

1790 Feb 24--Died, age 46; bd. Cold Spring cemetery. (Tombstone, Howe 349) Thomas d. intestate. On 26 Jan of 1791 Elvis Hughes was pptd. admr., Jeremiah Edmunds (Judith's bro.?) fellow bondsman, both of Cape May Co. Witnesses: Jeremiah Eldredge & Sarah Hand. On Jun 11 inventory was presented by Jeremiah Eldredge, Ebenezer Newton; est val. at £270/5/6. (NJA 37:59)

1797 May 13--Md. in Edw. Price's account bk. (CMHG 1:245) The reference has to be to Thomas[4] and his est., as Thomas[5] was only 12 or 13 at this time--a bit young to be carrying an account with a merchant.

Ch. of Thomas[4] Buck and Judith Edmunds

Although none of the following are identified anywhere in the record as ch. of Thomas[4], circumstantial evidence suggests they prob. all were. The reasoning runs as follows: there were four Gen. IV Bucks in Lower Twp.--Lot, William, Frederick (bros.), and Thomas (their cousin); of these four Wm. & Frederick didn't marry till 1797 and 1798 and can be ruled out; Lot's first wife d. within a yr. of their marriage in 1783; he m. (2) in 1787 but d. six and a half yrs. later; he could therefore have been the father of one or two of the last named below, but I think it more likely that they, like the rest, were ch. of Thomas[4]; all named below appear in the records of the Cold Spring Presbyterian Church.

41 i AARON[5], b. 12 Apr 1773; d. 17 Feb 1790 ae. 16; bd. in Cold Spring cemetery. (Howe 349) Note that his father d. only 12 days later. Epidemic?

42 ii MARTHA. The records of the Cold Spring Presbyterian Church include the following entry: "Martha, Thomas, and Mary Buck having not been baptized in their infancy were baptized the first of Oct. [1808] (Howe 47). The format of the entry clearly suggests that the three were siblings rather than parents and dau. The Mary of the trio was neither the wife of William[4] (who had already been admitted to the church and would have to have been bp. before being admitted) nor the dau. of Frederick[4] (who was bp. the following yr. The Thomas of the trio would have to have been the Thomas listed below, who would have been 23 at the time.

*43 iii THOMAS, b. 1785; d. after 1850; m. (1) 8 Apr 1811 Luzinda Gilbert (2) 10 Aug 1815 Joan Bancroft (3) Elizabeth -----. (V. ii Martha supra.)

44 iv MARY. (V. ii Martha supra.)

The following three were all married, as was Thomas[5] above, at the Cold Spring Pres. Church by Rev. David Edwards within a period of five yrs. (Mayflower Descendant 8: 7,8).

*45 v ELIZABETH, d. after 1830; m. 28 Nov 1807 William Hughes, 10 ch.

46 vi SARAH, m. 14 Jan 1808 Isaac Van Meter.

47 vii HANNAH, m. 24 Oct 1812 Rd. (Raymond? Reginald?) Schellenger.

19 ABIGAIL[4] (THOMAS[3], JOHN[2]), m. Samuel Eldredge, 4 ch.

Abigail's marriage to Samuel Eldredge is not in CMCM, but the evidence dates it in the mid-1750's. Samuel Eldredge was the son of Samuel and Mercy (Leaming) Eldredge, b. ca. 1730, d. 1796. My source identifies Abigail as "dau. of Thomas Buck."

Ch. of Abigail[4] Buck and Samuel Eldredge (md. in div. of their father's est. in 1796)

48 i Hannah Eldredge, m. Joseph Greenway (Conway? Conroy?) of Phila.

49 ii David Eldredge

50 iii Bethia Eldredge, d. before 1796; m. Constantine Foster, had ch.

51 iv Experience Eldredge, d. before 1796; m. ----- Albertson.

(All data above from CMHG 1;12,61. Abigail was no doubt named for her paternal grandmother.)

Ch. of unidentifiable Gen. IV parents

I find the marriages (and nothing further) of four Buck females in the records who fl. 1797-1814 and whom, assuming marriage in the 16-25 age range, I assign to Gen. V; however, the first two could be young members of Gen. IV, in which case they would have to be the ch. of John[3]; but I think more likely they're Gen. V, in which case they would most likely have been daughters of 7 Enos, less likely (but still possible) daughters of 8 John or 11 Stephen, orleast likely daughters of 17 Thomas. I suspect they were sisters, but they may not have been.

52 i LOVISA[5], m. 29 May 1797 Elijah Ingram. (CMCM 22)

53 ii PRISCILLA, m. 16 Apr 1799 James Johnson. (Ibid.)

The other two I suspect were also sisters. Their father could have been any of the following: 7 Enos, 8 John, 10 Andrew, 11 Stephen, 12 Lot. I assume they were Buck daughters, but one may have been a Buck widow, possibly of 8 John.

54 iii SARAH, m. 14 May 1810 Charles Chester; they were m. by Elder Jenkin David. ("Cape May Baptist Marriages 1808-22," GMNJ 23:2)

55 iv PHEBE, m. 11 Apr 1814 Jeremiah Hays; they were m. by Elder Jenkin David. (Ibid.)

(Some further enlightenment might result from checking Chas. Chester and Jeremiah Hays in the 1830, 1840, and 1850 censuses; this I have not done.)

I also find two Buck males in the records that appear to be of Gen. V but with no indication of parentage. For various reasons, however, all members of Gen. IV can be eliminated except 7 Enos, 8 John, 10 Andrew, and 11 Stephen, one (or two) of whom had to be the father(s) of:

*56 v JOSEPH, d. before 1817; m. 3 May 1807 Elizabeth Town --1 ch; md. as debtor to an estate 1814.

*57 vi SAMUEL, m. 20 Oct 1809 Amelia Hewitt; appears in 1830 and 1840 census; presumably d. before 1850.

27 CRAWFORD[5] (ENOS[4], JOHN[3]), b. 1775-8; m. 3 Apr 1801 Prudence Izzard, 1 ch. (?)

No record of Crawford's birth, but I assign him to Enos on the evidence of names: Enos m. Elizabeth Crawford.

$177\frac{5}{8}$ Born during these years, as his parents were m. in mid-1773 and he himself m. in 1801.

1801 Apr 3--M. Prudence Izzard. (CMCH 16)

1803 Crawford d. intestate, prob. early Aug as his est. was probated 29 Aug--"Crawford Buck of Middle Twp., admx. Prudence Buck; fellow bondsmen Simeon Izzard and Levi Hand, all of sd. co.; inv. presented at court 3 Sep by Steven and Jeremiah Hand, val. est. at $830.31." (NJA 39: 61) Crawford could hardly have been more than 25. We know that his father, Enos, drowned at sea in 1803. Was his son on the same boat?

1815 Aug 30--Prudence Buck m. Thomas Ross. (CMCM 37)

Ch. of Crawford[5] Buck and Prudence Izzard.

*58 i HOPE[6], b. prob. 1802; d. after 1850; m. 9 May 1826 Hannah Gandy, 3 ch. (?) I assign Hope to Crawford because he himself named a son Crawford.

28 JOHN SWAIN[5], (ENOS[4], JOHN[3], JOHN[2]), b. Cape May 5 Apr 1802; d. Millville, Cumberland Co., 1885; m. 26 Feb 1828 Mary Denight, 10 ch.

He was called Swain and so designated in the 1840 and 1850 censuses. His father d. when Swain was barely a yr. old; as a ch. he was indentured to and raised by Eliza Townsend. We don't find him in the 1830 census, but we find him in Millville in the 1840 and 1850 censuses. As of the 1840 census he "practiced agriculture"; in the 1850 census he was designated "laborer." Here is such record as I've been able to compile, most of it provieded by BKB from family records and tradition:

1802 Apr 2--Birth date.

1828 Feb 26--Married Mary Denight, dau. of Joseph and Martha Denight. Swain and Mary's first ch. Keziah was 2 at the time of their marriage; such delays occurred because a couple chose to wait for their favorite circuit minister to perform the ceremony.

1830 Not in census. Possibly living with Mary's parents?

1840 Census shows Swain Buck in Millville, Cumberland Co., head of household comprising 1 M 30-40 (himself), 1 F 30-40 (Mary), 1 F 10-14 (Keziah), 1 F 5-9 (either Hannah or Sarah, but whichever it is, the other one is missing), 1 F under 5, (Amanda), and 1 M & 1 F 70-80 (doubtless Mary's parents). Jonathan, who would be 12, is missing.

1850 Census shows Swain Buck, laborer, 48; his wife Mary, also 48; her mother, Martha Denight, 84; plus six of the ch. listed below.

1885 Swain Buck d.

Ch. of John Swain[5] Buck and Mary Denight (Further data can prob. be found in Cumberland Co. records.)

59 i KEZIAH DENIGHT, b. 13 Feb 1826; m. 5 Jul (yr. deleted) Jesse ----- (illeg., but looks like Conaborn)

60 ii JONATHAN DENIGHT, b. 8 Jul 1828; d. unm.; 22 and living with parents in 1850 census; served in civil war.

61 iii HANNAH Ann, b. 2 Dec 1831; 18 and living with parents in 1850 census.

62 iv SARAH, b. prob. ca. 1832-3; m. 27 Jul 1850 John S. Rubart.

63 v AMANDA, b. 1836; d. 1917; 13 yrs old in 1850 census.

63A vi JAMES LOPER, b. 4 Aug 1838; d. 20 Jul 1839, ae. 11 mo 16 da.

63B vii MARY ELIZA, b. 27 Dec 1840; d. 4 May 1842; ae. 1 yr 1 mo 8 da.

63C viii WILLIAM HENRY, b. 3 Mar 1843; 7 yrs old in the 1850 census.

63D ix BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, b. 1 Feb 1846, d. 1 May 1936; served in civil war; became a minister.

64 x JOHN SWAIN Jr., b. Apr 1848; drowned at sea Dec 1864, age 17; 2 yrs old in the 1850 census. Below is an account of his death as reported in a local newspaper.

"Drowned at Sea--We regret to state that John S. Buck,,Jr., of Millville, was drowned at sea, about two miles off Barnegat, on Friday night last. He was on his way to New York on the schooner Alvira, Capt. Maule, and it is supposed that he was knocked overboard by the jibing of the boom. One of the hands heard him cry "Save me," but a heavy snow stor storm raging at the time prevented him from being seen or assistance from reaching him.

His parents request the following description of him be given, in hope that his body might be recovered if it should be washed up on the beach. He was about 17 years old, heavily built, 5 feet 8 inches high, black hair, and eyes, fore and middle finger of left hand amputated.--Should any person find the body, it is hoped they will forward information to his parents at Millville."

29 STEPHEN[5] (STEPHEN[4], JOHN[3], JOHN[2]), b. ca. 1782-3; m. 12 Jun 1808 Abigail Shaw.

The county marriage records show the marriage 12 June 1808 of a Stephen Buck Jr. and Abigail Shaw. (CMCM 17) We can assume that this Stephen Buck Jr. was the son of Stephen[4]. On the basis of his marriage date and the marriage date of his parents we can estimate his birth yr. at ca. 1782-3. The county marriage records also show the marriage in 1841 (33 yrs. later) of a Stephen Buck and Rachel G. Hewitt (CMCM 17), and the probate index shows the will of a Stephen Buck in 1877 (NJW 3:250).

Was the Stephen Buck who m. Rachel Hewitt in 1841 the same one who m. Abigail Shaw in 1808? If so, he must have been nearly 60 when he m. the second time and nearly 95 when he d. I lean to the view that the Stephen Buck of the second marriage was a younger Stephen Buck and the son of Stephen[6] and Abigail Shaw.

These 3 references are the only mention I find of a Stephen Buck in the 1800's other than the references cited earlier that are clearly references to Stephen[4] Buck. I find no Stephen Buck in the 1830, 40, or 50 census. I have not seen the 1877 will, however. Possibly it would throw some light on the subject.

Ch. of Stephen[5] Buck and Abigail Shaw

64A i STEPHEN[6], b. after 1808; d. 1877; m. 1 Jul 1841 Rachel G. Hewitt. (V. supra)

43 THOMAS^5 (THOMAS^4, THOMAS^3), b. 1784-5; d. after 1850; m. (1) 8 Apr 1811 Luzinda Gilbert, 1 ch. (2) 10 Aug 1815 Joanne Bancroft (3) Elizabeth -----, 1 ch. by either his 2nd or his 3rd wife.

Although there is no record of Thomas's parents, I assign him to Thomas^4 on the evidence of names. While he named a son Lot, Lot^4 didn't marry till two years after Thomas was born, so Lot was not his father. I find the following record for Thomas:

$178\frac{4}{5}$ Birth yr. (See 1848, 1850 entries below.)

1790 His father, Thomas^4, d. age 46. (Howe 349) The younger Thomas would be 11 or 12.

1808 Oct 1--Baptized with his sisters Martha and Mary at the Lower Twp. Pres. Church. (Howe 47) (Howe does not state that Martha and Mary are his sisters, but this is the inference I draw.) He was 23 at the time.

1811 Apr 8--M. Luzinda Gilbert; ceremony performed by Rev. Daniel Edwards at Lower Twp. Pres. Church. (Howe 47)

1815 May 19--Thomas Buck's son Lot baptized. (Howe 64)

Aug 10--Thomas Buck and Joanne Bancroft were m. by elder Jenkins David. ("Cape May Baptist Marriages" in GMNJ 23:3; CMCM 30. Former gives Thomas's middle initial as P., the latter as S.

1830 Not listed in census--unless he is the Thomas P. Buck in Salem County; however I think it likely the Salem County Thomas Buck is a descendant of the unrelated Henry Buck of Cohanzey.

1840 Ditto.

1848 Apr 25--Thomas Buck, 63, on list of voters in the Lower Twp. to determine location of county seat. (CMHG 2:14) No other Bucks appear in the Lower Twp. list.

1850 Census shows Thomas Buck, 65, laborer, real est. val. at $250; Elizabeth Buck 62, Emma Church, 3. Emma may have been a grandchild.

<u>Ch. of Thomas^5 Buck and Luzinda Gilbert (i), either Joanne Bancroft or Elizabeth ----- (ii)</u>

65 i LOT^6, b. ca. 1813, bp. 19 May 1815; no further record; possibly father of Emma Church in the 1850 census.

*66 ii THOMAS, b. 1825, m. Abigail -----, 3 ch. by 1850, perhaps more thereafter. (I assign this Thomas to Thomas^5 on the basis of names.)

45 ELIZABETH[5] (THOMAS[4], THOMAS[3]), b. Cape May 27 Jul 1787; d. Cape May 25 Oct 1846; m. 8 Nov 1807 William Hughes.

She was called Eliza. Her husband, Wm. Hughes, was b. at Cape May 24 Sep 1765; d. there 7 Jun 1833; was s. of Ellis Hughes Jr. by his first wife Eleanor Hurst Whildin. They were m. at the Cold Spring Presbyterian Church by Rev. David Edwards.

Ch. of Elizabeth[5] Buck and William Hughes (surname Hughes)

67 i Caroline, b. 7 Nov 1808; d. 1864; m. ----- Marlue.

68 ii Eliza B. (for Buck ?), b. 7 Nov 1808 (twin of Caroline; d. Mar 1901.

69 iii Hetty W., b. 14 Jun 1813; d. 10 May 1833.

70 iv Swain B. (for Buck?), b. Cape May 12 Jun 1815; d. Terre Haute, Ind., 1885; m. (1) ----- -----, 3 ch. (2) at Terre Haute 28 Nov 1881 Emma J. Hovey.

71 v Ellen L., b. 21 Nov 1817; d. 6 Sep 1880.

72 vi Henry Hand, b. 29 Apr 1820; d. 13 Feb 1826.

73 vii Richard, b. 20 Mar 1822; d. 11 Feb 1826.

74 viii Francis Flansburg, b. 30 Nov 1824; d. Shellsburg, Iowa, 9 Apr 1918; m. at Philadelphia Aug 1846 Elizabeth Stock Kemp, 8 ch.

75 ix Josephine, b. 8 Jun 1828; d. 6 Feb 1830.

76 x William R., b. Cape May 14 Oct 1830; d. Phila. 21 Jun 1903.

(Data from R.F. Hughes, comp., Hughes Family of Cape May County, N.J., 1650-1950)

56 JOSEPH[5] (-----[4]), b. est. 1780; d. before 1817; m. 3 May 1807 Elizabeth Town--1 ch.

Assuming Joseph was in his late 20's when he m., we can estimate his birth yr. in the early 1780's, putting him in Gen. V; however, I have no indication of his parents, but by elimination we conclude that his father had to be Enos, Andrew, or Stephen. The total record I find for Joseph consists of the following:

1780 Est. birth yr. based on 1807 marriage.

1807 May 3--Married Elizabeth Town. (CMCM 16)

1809 Mar 14--An entry in the Cape May County Poor Book for Lower Twp. tells us that "This year John Buck was put out at the rate of twenty-three dollars, five cents to Joseph Buck."

Oct 12--Ibid.: "Received of David Hughes, overseer of the poor of Lower Township eleven dollars for keeping John Buck, one of the poor of said township. Joseph Buck"

1810 Mar 13--Ibid.: "John Buck put out to Alee Handly."

The John Buck of these three county poor book entries is 8. John[4] (pp. 32f.) From these references I think we can correctly infer that Joseph was John's nephew rather than his son, as a son would certainly have been obliged to house and feed and indigent parent without subsidy from the overseer of the poor. Moreover, John was with Joseph only one year and then put out to someone else.

1814 Jan 31--Listed as debtor to estate of Reuben Southward of Lower Twp., Cape May Co., in inventory of the est. (NJA 42:399)

1817 Jan 4--Another entry in the County Poor Book shows "Cash paid to Jeremiah Billinger, it being the last payment for keeping Elinor Buck, a poor child of Elizabeth Buck." The only Elizabeth Buck this could be is Elizabeth (Town) Buck, wife of Joseph5. As the child is identified as child of Elizabeth Buck rather than of Joseph Buck, we cam assume its father was now dead.

Ch. of Joseph[5] Buck and Elizabeth Town

76A i ELINOR[6], the ch. md. in the County Poor Book. I find no further reference to her in the records.

57 SAMUEL[5] (-----[4]), b. est. 1785; d. prob. before 1850; m. 20 Oct 1809 Amelia Hewitt.

No record of parentage, but his father had to be Enos, John, Andrew, or Stephen; may have been bro. of 56 Joseph.

1785 Est. approx. birth yr. based on 1809 marriage and 1830 & 40 censuses.

1809 Oct 20--Samuel Buck and Amelia Hewitt were m. by Elder Jenkins David. ("Cape May Baptist Marriages 1808-1822" in GMNJ 23:2)

1830 Census shows Samuel Buck, head of household, Middle Twp.: 1 M 40-50 (Samuel?); 1 F 60-70 (His mother? Or did census taker enter his wife in wrong column?): 1 F 15-20; 1 M & 1 F 10-15; 1 M & 1 F 5-10; 1 F under 5.

1834 Mar 11--An entry in the Cape May County Poor Book (Lower Twp.) reads: "Cash paid for examining Samuel Buck."

1840 Census shows Samuel Buck, head of household, Middle Twp.: 1 M & 1 F 50-60. (Samuel and his wife? Had she d. before 1830 and did he remarry after 1830? And where are all the ch. of the 1830 household.) Census gives Samuel's occupation as "navigation of the ocean.

1842 Dec 30--A Samuel J. Buck m. Mary Stites. (CMCM 41) This could be a second or third marriage for Samuel[5] or the marriage of his son Samuel[6]. If the latter, the groom was barely 18.

1850 Samuel had perhps d. by this date, as the 1850 census does not list a Samuel Buck in Cape May Co. The Samuel Buck in Willingboro, Burlington Co., is certainly a descendant of Henry Buck of Cohanzey.

Ch. of Samuel[5] Buck and Amelia Hewitt

Though there is no record of ch. b. to Samuel[5], the two below were most likely his for the following reason. Both resided in Middle Twp.; the only Gen 5 Bucks who res. there were Crawford, William, and Samuel; but Crawford d. before the est. birth yr. of the following two, and William, bp. in 1808 would have been too young. In addition, Samuel[6] can probably be assigned to Samuel[5] on the evidence of names.

*77 i CRAWFORD[6], b. 1814; d. 1882 (?); m. 7 Feb 1830 Sarah Crawford.

*78 ii SAMUEL, b. 1823-4; d. 1896; may have been the Samuel Buck who m. 30 Dec 1842 Mary Stites; prob. the M 5-10 in the household of Samuel[5] in the 1830 census.

Ch. of unidentifiable Gen. V parents

78A i EMILY[6], m. 4 Dec 1830 Levi Garrison (CMCM 49). This Emily would have to be a Buck daughter rather than a Buck widow; if the latter she would have to have been the widow of a Gen. V Buck, but All the Gen. V Bucks I've found lived beyond 1830. Assuming then that she m. in the usual age range of 16-25, she would have to belong to Gen. VI and could have been the daughter of Crawford, Stephen, Thomas, Joseph, or Samuel.

58 HOPE[6] (CRAWFORD[5], ENOS[4]), b. 1800-01; d. after 1850; m. 9 May 1826 Hannah Gandy.

I find no record of Hope's parentage but assume on the grounds that he named a son Crawford that he was probably the son of Crawford[5]. Here is the total record I find for Hope.

180^{0}_{1} Birth yr.; see 1848 and 1850 entries below.

1826 M. Hannah Gandy. (CMCM 30)

1830 Census shows Hope Buck head of household in Middle Twp. --1 M 20-30 (Hope); 2 F under 5; 1 F 10-15. (P. 237) Where is Hannah? Did the census taker enter her in the wrong column?

1840 Census shows Hope Buck head of household in Dennis Twp. --1 M & 1 F 30-40 (Hope and wife), 2 F 10-15, 1 M 5-10 (Crawford); Hope's occupation given as navigation.

1848 "Hope Buck, 47, mariner" on a Dennis Twp. list of voters to determine location of county seat--the only Buck in Dennis Twp. on this list.

1850 Census shows Hope Buck head of household in Dennis Twp. --Hope Buck, 49, mariner, with real est. val. at $2500; Hannah Buck, 45; Crawford Buck 17, laborer; Hannah E. Buck 1.

Children of Hope[6] Buck and Hannah Gandy

? 79 i -----, dau, b. 1827-29, one of the 2 F's under 5 in 1830 census, 10-15 in the 1840 census, married or deceased before the 1850 census was taken.

? 80 ii -----, ditto; the two may have been twins; one was possibly the Millicent Buck who m. 30 Sep 1843 Isaac Hewitt (CMCM 52) (though she couldn't have been more than 15 at the time); the other might possibly have been the Eliz. Ann Buck who m. 7 Jan 1747 Stillwell Smith. (CMCM 61)

81 iii CRAWFORD[7], b. 1833 (age 17 in 1850 census); m. -- May 1860 in Upper Twp. Rebeccah Corson (CMCM 87).

82 iv HANNAH E., b. 1849 (age 1 in 1850 census).

66 THOMAS[6] (THOMAS[5], THOMAS[4]), b. 1825; m. Abigail -----, 3ch. before 1850, prob. more thereafter.

I assign this Thomas Buck to Thomas[5] solely on the evidence of names; in the case of a name as common as Thomas, however, this is admittedly a highly speculative basis on which to guess parentage.

1825 Birth yr. (1850 census)

1845 Est. yr of marriage to Abigail -----.

1850 Census shows Thomas Buck, 25, mariner, head of household in Lower Twp., wife Abigail Buck, children: Emma Buck 3, Swain and Ella Buck 1 (twins).

Ch. of Thomas[6] Buck and Abigail -----

83 i EMMA[7], b. 1847.

84 ii SWAIN, b. 1849.

85 iii ELLA, b. 1849 (twin of Swain).

77 CRAWFORD[6] (SAMUEL[5] ?, -----[4]), b. 1814; d. 1882 (?); m. 7 Feb 1830 Sarah Crawford.

As explained several pp. back, I assign this Crawford (and the 78 Samuel that follows) to 57 Samuel[5] for geographic and chronological reasons.

$181\frac{3}{4}$ Approx. birth yr.

1830 Feb 7--M. Sarah Crawford. (CMCM 41) Crawford was no more than 16 or 17 at the time.

Census shows Crawford Buck res. Middle Twp. head of household of 2: 1 M 20-30 (Crawford himself, either misrepresenting his age or his age being wrongly estimated by census taker), 1 F 20-30 (Sarah).

1840 Census shows Crawford Buck head of household in Middle Twp.: 1 M 20-30 (Crawford), 1 F 30-40 (Sarah), 1 M 5-9 (Richard); Crawford's occupation is "navigation of the ocean."

1848 Crawford Buck, mariner, 34, in list of voters to determine location of county seat. Voters were from Middle Twp.; list also included Samuel Buck, 24, and William Buck, age not given.

1850 Census shows Crawford Buck household in Middle Twp.: Crawford, 36; Sarah, 30 (obviously incorrect age if this is the same Sarah he m. in 1830); and Richard, 17.

1882 The Crawford Buck whose will is listed in NJW 250 is prob. this Crawford; however, I have not seen the will, and it could be the will of 81 Crawford[7].

Ch. of Crawford[6] Buck and Sarah Crawford

86 i RICHARD[7], b. 1833, listed as 17 and laborer in 1850 census; m. 21 Feb 1856 Judith Townsend. (CMCM 41) In the marriage record he is Richard C. (for Crawford?) Buck.

78 SAMUEL^{6} (SAMUEL^{5} ?), b. 1823-4, d. 1796; m. 30 Dec 1842 Mary Stites.

$18\frac{3}{4}$ Birth yr. (See 1848 entry below.)

1842 Dec 30--Samuel J. Buck m. Mary Stites (CMCM 41). Samuel would have been only 18, perhaps 19, at the time. (This could also have been a second marriage of his father.)

1848 Apr 25--Samuel Buck, 24, mariner, on Middle Twp. list of voters to determine location of county seat. CMHG 2:9) Crawford and William Buck also appear on this list.

1850 No Samuel Buck household in Cape May County in the census.

1878 S. Buck's lot appears on a map of Cape May Courthouse between C. Hewitt and J. Shepard on Mechanics St. (Woolman and Rose, Hist. and Biog. Atlas of the N.J. Coast. 1878)

1896 Will of Samuel J. Buck--2306E. (NJW:250) I have not seen this will; children may be listed.

AFTERWORD

Two observations seem worth comment. First, the scanty record we find of so many of the individuals included in this compilation--frequently only a single mention and that usually in a tax list or will--suggests high mortality and heavy emigration. Since so many of the males followed the sea some must have met their ends in unrecorded drownings; some may have taken to the sea and just kept roaming, perhaps ultimately settling down somewhere else. In the years following the Revolutionary War many no doubt went west.

Second, I was puzzled by the lack of evidence of Revolutionary War service by any of the males. Even if not strongly pro-independence they could not all have escaped the press gangs; yet in none of the New Jersey, D.A.R., or National Archives records do I find evidence that any of them were involved. Being sea-farers, some might have sailed on the privateers, in which case I believe they would probably not appear in official records.

Finally, I'm left with a few Buck marriages after 1850 from CMCM which I'm unable to incorporate in this compilation. They are probably all descendants of John Buck, but by that time Cape May County was already a resort area with a seasonal influx of outsiders, so one can't be 100% positive. Anyway, I list them here for the benefit of anyone interested in carrying this record further.

87 PRISCILLA, m. 24 Jul 1852 Vincent Miller. (CMCM 56)

88 CECILIA, m. 26 Feb 1866 Richard C. Selover. (CMCM 81)

89 CORNELIA, m. 15 Jun 1867 Edward M. Shivers. (CMCM 81)

90 HOWARD, m. (1) 28 May 1871 Emily B. Cresse. (2) 12 Nov 1876 Alfarata Roseman. (CMCM 69)

91 THEADRICK, m. 27 Oct 1872 Mercy C. Springer. (CMCM 69)

92 JASON, m. 24 Jun 1877 Edith Holdskom. (CMCM 69)